

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

Claims 11-15 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-5, 8-10 and 16 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-5, 8-10 and 16.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Applicant has canceled claims 11-15.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 11-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hellwig et al (US Patent 6,295,302) hereinafter referenced to as Hellwig in view of Kalliokulju et al (US Patent 6,385,451) hereinafter referenced to as Kalliokulju. In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicant has canceled the claims 11-15.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sidney L. Weatherford", written over a horizontal line.

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